

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

Brice
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coal

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Action

Classification

Control: 3987

EUR

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Info

FROM: Bonn

RMR

TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 1711, February 6, 7 p.m.

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SENT DEPARTMENT 1711, REPEATED INFORMATION PARIS 562, LONDON 402, BRUSSELS 63, LUXEMBOURG 57, DUESSELDORF 53, BREMEN 40.

PARIS FOR EMBASSY AND USRO.

BRUSSELS FOR EMBASSY AND BUSEC.

LUXEMBOURG FOR EMBASSY AND LUXCO.

Reference: EMBTEL 1629.

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OSD

Bundesrat in considering coal tariff measure February 6 and voting strictly according sectional interests rather than party lines, recommended by vote 24 to 12 with four abstentions that government not issue coal tariff ordinance. Rhein-West Phalia, Rheinland-Pfaltz and Saar favored tariff. Lower Saxony abstained, others against. Government constitutionally not bound by Bundesrat recommendations on ordinances pertaining customs regulations.

Westrick, Economy Minister and Hartman, Finance Minister presented government case. Said government realized consequences coal tariff in terms commercial policy, relations with United States, but stressed temporary nature. After vote Westrick said government would not accept Bundesrat's recommendation.

BRUCE

MGG:SLS/2